STATEMENT OF COMMISSONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

Re: Rural Call Completion, WC Docket No. 13-39.

For too long, consumers in rural America—and the carriers that serve them—have complained about dropped calls, missed calls, and connections that fail. This is unacceptable. After all, failure to complete calls to rural subscribers can cut families off from relatives in rural areas, lead rural businesses to lose customers, and create dangerous delays for first responder communications.

A year ago, we took steps to fix rural call completion. Specifically, we put in place new recordkeeping, retention, and reporting requirements. These rules were intended to help ensure that rural consumers receive service on par with their urban counterparts. However, these rules are not yet in effect. So I'm pleased that this Order on Reconsideration resolves several pending petitions for reconsideration that will allow us to move forward with putting these rules into effect. Going forward, I hope we can move faster to bring an end to this persistent problem.